

Watch/Warning/Advisory Program

AWIPS Build OB4

Instructions for product preparation – Watch By County

WFO Pleasant Hill, Missouri

OVERVIEW OF WWA

The purpose of this section is to present the functionality of WWA by:

- describing the various features
- understand what is meant by the terms associated with specific GUI interfaces

You can launch the WWA using one of the following methods:

- a) from the Tools menu on a D2D display
- b) from the System Control Menu on the backdrop of a workstation (OB4)

Two windows will appear:

- a) The Geo Viewer (CWA map)
- b) The WWA-Monitor (product monitor)

WWA GUI descriptions:

1) The WWA-Geo Viewer:

- appears when WWA is launched.
- is used to select graphically and view graphically zones/counties in WWA (Watch, Warning, Advisory)

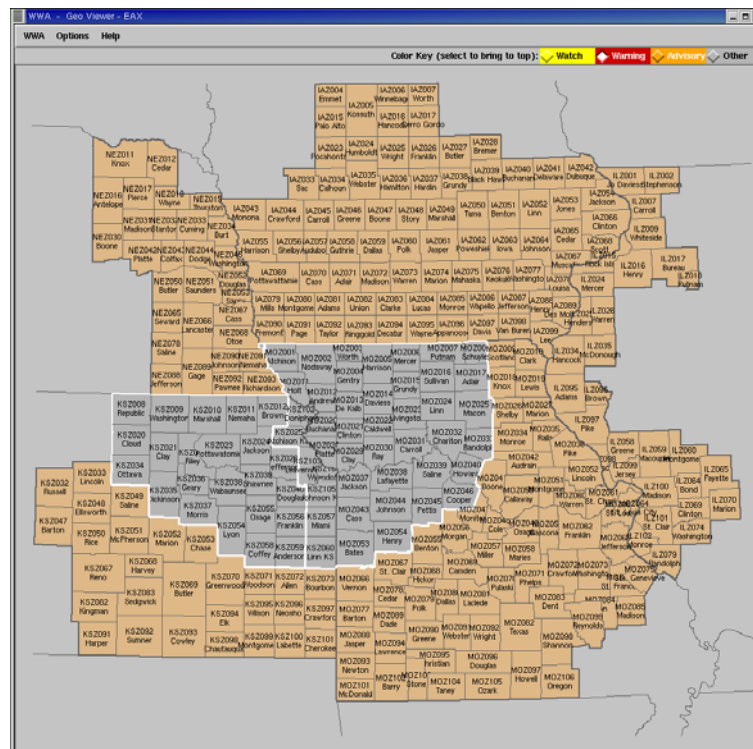


Figure 1 - WWA-Geo Viewer

2) The WWA-Monitor:

- appears when WWA is launched.
- is used for monitoring status of watches, warnings, and advisories.
- is used for selecting which WWA products are being updated (follow-up), cleared (cancel part of an area), or canceled (canceled entire area).
- is used for triggering WWA-composer to create new products, issued follow-up products, clear areas, and cancel areas.

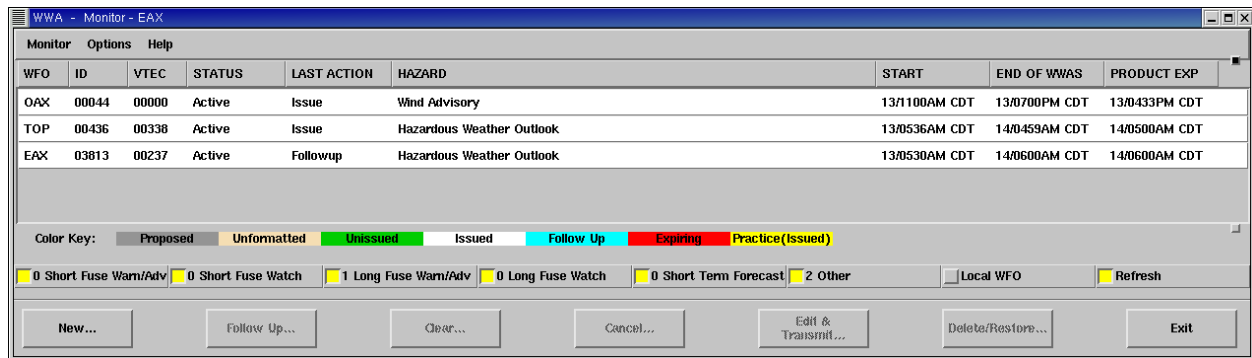


Figure 2 - WWA Monitor GUI

3) The WWA-Composer (right):

- appears when New..., Follow Up..., Clear..., or Cancel..., is selected in the WWA Monitor.
- is used for selecting type of Hazard, Beginning times, Duration, Expiration, and Call to Actions (listed as optional bullets).
- is used to trigger transmit window when “Edit & Transmit” is selected.

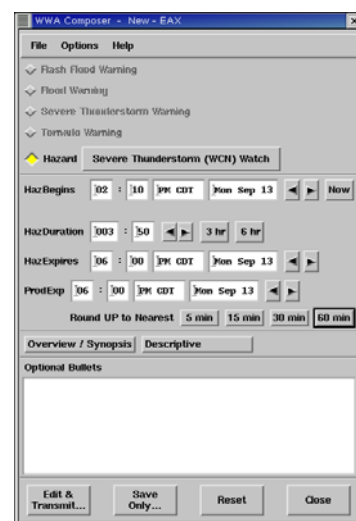


Figure 3 - WWA Composer GUI

4) The WOU Ingester (right)

- Used to inject a new watch into WWA.
- Found under the “Options” pull-down menu on the WWA-Monitor.

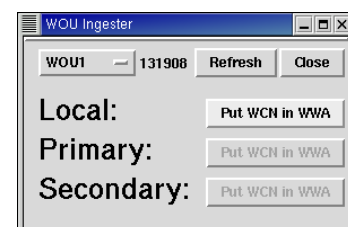


Figure 4 – WOU Ingester

5) **The WWA-Transmit GUI:**

- appears when 'Edit and Transmit' button is clicked.
- is used for transmitting the text contained in the GUI to the outside world.

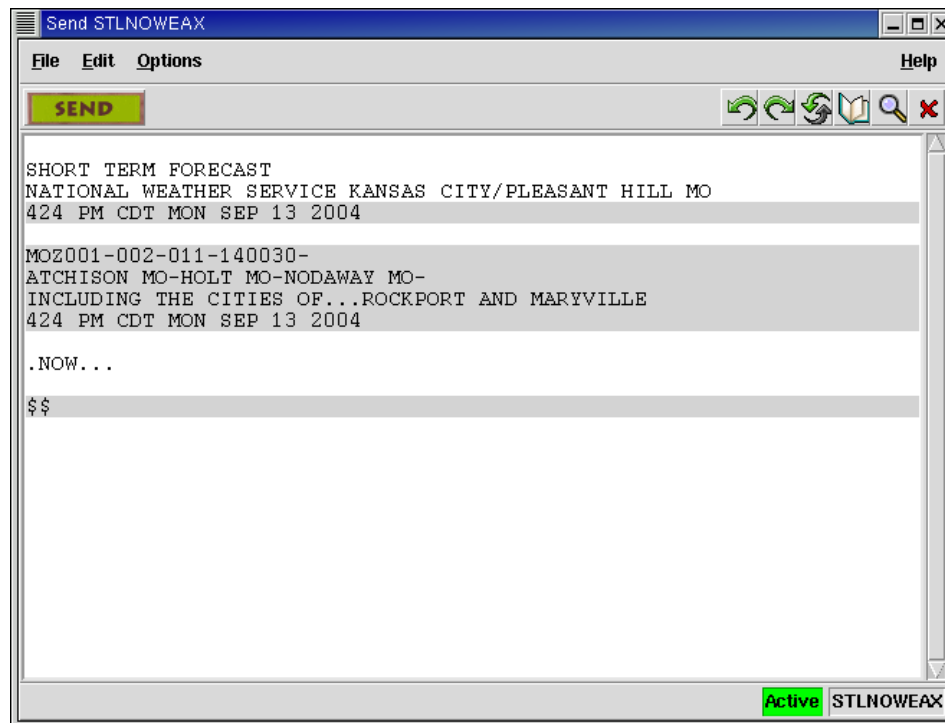


Figure 5 – WWA-Transmit GUI

Watch-By-County Job Sheets

These sheets are intended to give step-by-step instructions for various convective watch scenarios. The instructions are very straight-forward when there is just one convective watch in effect for your CWA. The process becomes a little more complicated when there are multiple watches in effect.

Some basic rules of thumb:

- 1) Whenever you issue a WCN, it **must contain** a segment for each convective watch that is in effect for your CWA.
- 2) **Do not issue multiple WCN's separately for individual watches.**
- 3) You may need to mix and match procedures from different job sheets if you need to clear or cancel multiple watches at the same time.

The following job sheets cover the following specific procedures:

Job Sheet #1: **Issue** a new single convective watch (no other watches in effect)

Job Sheet #2: Follow-up single watch to **clear** counties (no other watches in effect)

Job Sheet #3: Follow-up a single watch to **cancel** the watch (no other watches in effect)

Job Sheet #4: **Follow-up** a single watch –or- **Follow-up** a single watch for a multi-segment product

Job Sheet #5: **Issue** a new convective watch (other watches **are** in effect)

Job Sheet #6: Follow-up a watch to **clear** counties (other watches **are also** in effect)

Job Sheet #7: Follow-up a watch to **cancel** a watch (other watches **are also** in effect)

Job Sheet #8: Follow-up a watch to **extend in area**

Job Sheet #9: Follow-up a watch to **extend in time**

Watch-By-County Job Sheet #1

Issue a new single convective watch (no other watches in effect)

To create the new watch (WCN):

1. Ingest the WOU into WWA. To do this:
 - a) Select 'WOU Ingestor' from the "Options" pull-down menu on the WWA-Monitor.
 - b) By default, the most recent WOU should pop up in the drop-down box in the upper left-hand corner of this window. If it isn't correct, click on the drop-down box and select the correct WOU by its number (WOU2, WOU3, etc.)
 - c) Click on the "Put WCN in WWA" button next to any/all site(s) that is/are appropriate for this situation. Typically, this will be just for the "Local" site, but it may also be "Primary" or "Secondary" depending on whether you are performing service backup.
 - d) Click on the "Close" button to close out the WOU Ingestor GUI.
 - e) Click on the 'Local WFO' button on the WWA-Monitor GUI to force a quick refresh of the list of hazards. The new watch should be placed in the WWA-Monitor highlighted in brown (unformatted).
2. Click on the WCN listed in the WWA-Monitor.
3. Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Monitor.
4. Look over the output in the WWA Transmit GUI. Areas you cannot edit include the UGC line, the VTEC line, and the time stamp in the mass media header.
5. Click on 'Transmit' then on 'Yes' to send the WCN.

Watch-By-County Job Sheet #2

Follow-up single watch to clear counties (no other watches in effect)

Instructions for preparing a WCN just as a follow-up (no clear or cancel) are located in **Job Sheet #4**. This sheet contains instructions to clear counties from a watch.

To clear counties from the WCN:

1. Click on the watch (WCN) listed in the WWA-Monitor.
2. Click on the 'Clear' button in the WWA-Monitor.
3. All the counties in the watch will highlight blue in the WWA-Geo Viewer. To de-select counties (to clear them from the watch), mouse over those counties on the map and left-click to select them as cleared counties. The background will change from blue to yellow in the cleared counties.
4. Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Composer.
5. Look over the output in the WWA Transmit GUI. Areas you cannot edit include the UGC line, the VTEC line, and the time stamp in the mass media header. There will be two segments: the first a cancellation to clear out counties, then a continuation segment to continue the remainder of the watch.
6. Click on 'Transmit' then on 'Yes' to send the WCN.

Watch-By-County Job Sheet #3

**Follow-up a single convective watch to cancel the watch
(no other watches in effect)**

Instructions for preparing a WCN just as a follow-up (no clear or cancel) are located in **Job Sheet #4**. This sheet contains instructions to cancel an entire watch.

To cancel the entire watch:

1. Click on the watch (WCN) listed in the WWA-Monitor.
2. Click on the 'Cancel' button in the WWA-Monitor.
3. Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Composer.
4. The WWA-Composer GUI will pop-up on the screen. By default, WWA sets the expiration time of the watch to one hour from the current time. To stay consistent with NWS policy, click on the 'Round UP to the nearest 15 min' button to round the expiration time to one that ends in a 15-minute increment.
5. Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Composer.
6. Look over the output in the WWA Transmit GUI. Areas you cannot edit include the UGC line, the VTEC line, and the time stamp in the mass media header. There will be one segment that cancels the entire watch.
7. Click on 'Transmit' then on 'Yes' to send your WCN.

Watch-By-County Job Sheet #4

Follow-up a single convective watch –or– Follow-up a single watch for a multi-segment product

This job sheet will be used to follow-up any existing convective watch (no clearing or canceling). *The procedure may also be used if WWA fails to automatically follow-up all existing watches upon receipt of a new watch.* To add counties to an existing watch (extension in area), **go to Job Sheet #8**. To extend a watch in time, **go to Job Sheet #9**.

To follow-up a convective watch:

1. Click on the watch (WCN) listed in the WWA-Monitor.
2. Click on the 'Follow Up' button in the WWA-Monitor.
3. Decide which of the following two reasons best describe why you are doing a follow-up:

If you want to follow-up a watch to include in a multi-segment WCN (i.e., you're following up this watch but other watches are in effect):

- a) Click the "Save Only" button on the WWA-Composer. Do not change any other watch attributes.
- b) The WWA-Composer GUI will close. The WWA-Monitor will now list this watch with a brown background, meaning that it is ready to be formatted for inclusion in a multi-segment WCN.

WWA **should** automatically then follow-up all remaining active convective watches. If the software doesn't auto follow-up the remaining watches (their backgrounds turn brown in the WWA-Monitor), repeat steps 1, 2, and 3(a)(b) for each convective watch in the WWA database. Once all watches have been successfully followed-up (they have brown backgrounds):

- c) Click on each watch in the WWA-Monitor GUI. If selected, they will have inversed background and color (black background, white lettering)
- d) Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Monitor. Do not change any other watch attributes.
- e) Look over the output in the WWA Transmit GUI. Areas you cannot edit include the UGC line, the VTEC line, and the time stamp in the mass media header. There will be multiple segments in the WCN product.
- f) Click on 'Transmit' then on 'Yes' to send the WCN.

If you want to follow-up this particular watch, and it is the only watch in effect:

- a) Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Composer. Do not change any other watch attributes.
- b) Look over the output in the WWA Transmit GUI. Areas you cannot edit include the UGC line, the VTEC line, and the time stamp in the mass media header. There will be just one segment in the WCN product.
- c) Click on 'Transmit' then on 'Yes' to send the WCN.

Watch-By-County Job Sheet #5

Issue a new convective watch (other watches are in effect)

To bring the new watch into WWA

1. Ingest the WOU into WWA. To do this:
 - a) Select 'WOU Ingestor' from the "Options" pull-down menu on the WWA-Monitor.
 - b) By default, the most recent WOU should pop up in the drop-down box in the upper left-hand corner of this window. If it isn't correct, click on the drop-down box and select the correct WOU by its number (WOU2, WOU3, etc.)
 - c) Click on the "Put WCN in WWA" button next to any/all site(s) that is/are appropriate for this situation. Typically, this will be just for the "Local" site, but it may also be "Primary" or "Secondary" depending on whether you are performing service backup.
 - d) Click on the "Close" button to close out the WOU Ingestor GUI.
 - e) Click on the 'Local WFO' button on the WWA-Monitor GUI to force a quick refresh of the list of hazards. The new watch should be placed in the WWA-Monitor highlighted in brown (unformatted).
 - f) All other convective watches in effect should also be highlighted in brown. WWA will automatically follow-up on existing watches. If the other watches remain with a white background, complete Job Sheet #4 for each remaining watch in effect until all have been followed-up properly.

Each watch in the WWA-Monitor must have a brown background before you proceed.

2. Click on all active watches listed in the WWA-Monitor to select them all.
3. Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Monitor.
NOTE: if you do not select all active WCN's in step #2, WWA will prompt you if you want to include all active watches in your WCN. If you get this prompt, answer "Yes" to the question.
4. Look over the output in the WWA Transmit GUI. Areas you cannot edit include the UGC line, the VTEC line, and the time stamp in the mass media header. There will be multiple segments: one will be the issuance segment of your new watch, and the other segments will be the follow-ups for all other active convective watches.
5. Click on 'Transmit' then on 'Yes' to send the WCN.

Watch-By-County Job Sheet #6

Follow-up a watch to clear counties (other watches are also in effect)

Instructions for preparing a WCN to cancel a watch (multiple watches in effect) are located in **Job Sheet #7**.

To clear counties from a watch (WCN):

1. Click on the watch (WCN) listed in the WWA-Monitor.
 2. Click on the 'Clear' button in the WWA-Monitor.
 3. All the counties in the watch will highlight in the WWA-Geo Viewer. To de-select counties (to clear them from the watch), mouse over those counties on the map and left-click to select them as cleared counties. The background will change from blue to yellow in the cleared counties.
 4. Click the "Save Only" button on the WWA-Composer.
- If you have no other watches to clear or cancel, go directly to step 5.
 - If you have other watch(es) which need clearing, go to steps 4(a)(b)(c).
 - If you have watch(es) that need to be cancelled (no more clearing needed), go to Job Sheet #7 and perform steps (1)(2)(3) for each cancelled watch. Then go to step 5.

4. If you need to clear county(ies) from other watches that are also in effect:

- a) Click the "Save Only" button on the WWA-Composer.
- b) Repeat Steps (1), (2), and (3) above for each watch that needs to have counties cleared from each watch.
- c) If you have no watches to be cancelled, finish by going to step 5. If you have watch(es) that also need to be cancelled, go to Job Sheet #7 and perform steps (1)(2)(3) for each cancelled watch before proceeding to step 5 below.

5. Prepare to transmit the multi-segment WCN:

- a) WWA **should** automatically follow-up all other existing convective watches (backgrounds turn brown in the WWA-Monitor). If this is the case, proceed to step 6 below. If this fails:
 - I) Cancel out of the transmit of the WCN.
 - II) Perform Job Sheet #4 on all other existing watches.
 - III) Once all watches are highlighted with a brown background, proceed to step 5(b).
 - b) Click on all active watches listed in brown in the WWA-Monitor to select them.
 - c) Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Monitor.
6. Look over the output in the WWA Transmit GUI. Areas you cannot edit include the UGC line, the VTEC line, and the time stamp in the mass media header. There will be multiple segments: one for each active, cleared or cancelled convective watch.
 7. Click on 'Transmit' then on 'Yes' to send the WCN.

Watch-By-County Job Sheet #7

Follow-up a watch to **cancel** a watch (other watches are also in effect)

Instructions for preparing a WCN to clear portions of a watch (multiple watches in effect) are located in **Job Sheet #6**.

To cancel a watch (WCN):

1. Click on the watch (WCN) listed in the WWA-Monitor.
2. Click on the 'Cancel' button in the WWA-Monitor.
3. If you have no other watches to cancel or clear, click on the 'Save Only' button on the WWA-Composer. **Proceed to step 5** if working through this job sheet.
4. If you need to cancel other watches that are also in effect:
 - a) Click the "Save Only" button on the WWA-Composer.
 - b) Repeat Steps (1) and (2) above until all watches that need cancellation have been accomplished.

If you have watch(es) which need to have county(ies) cleared, **go to Job Sheet #6** and **perform steps 4(a)(b)** for each watch that requires clearing before proceeding to step 4.

5. Prepare to transmit the multi-segment WCN:

- a) WWA **should** automatically follow-up all other existing convective watches (backgrounds turn brown in the WWA-Monitor). If this is the case, **proceed to step 6 below**. If this fails:
 - I) Cancel out of the transmit of the WCN.
 - II) Perform Job Sheet #4 on all other existing watches.
 - III) Once all watches are highlighted with a brown background, **proceed to step 5(b)**.
 - b) Click on all active watches listed in brown in the WWA-Monitor to select them.
 - c) Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Monitor.
6. Look over the output in the WWA Transmit GUI. Areas you cannot edit include the UGC line, the VTEC line, and the time stamp in the mass media header. There will be multiple segments: one for each active, cleared or cancelled convective watch.
 7. Click on 'Transmit' then on 'Yes' to send the WCN.

Watch-By-County Job Sheet #8

Follow-up a single convective watch to extend the area of the watch (extension in area)

This job sheet will be used to extend a watch in area. To extend a watch in time, **go to Job Sheet #9**. To do a routine follow-up of watch(es) in effect, **go to Job Sheet #4**.

To extend the area of a convective watch:

1. Click on the watch (WCN) listed in the WWA-Monitor.
2. Click on the 'Follow Up' button in the WWA-Monitor.
3. All the counties in the watch will highlight in the WWA-Geo Viewer. To select additional counties (to add them to the watch), mouse over those counties on the map and left-click to select them as new counties. The background will change from tan to yellow for the added counties.

If you are adding county(ies) to a single watch (no other watches in effect), **complete step 5 to finish the process**. Otherwise, **complete step 4 to finish the process**.

4. Prepare the other watches in effect for inclusion into your WCN:

- a) Click the "Save Only" button on the WWA-Composer. Do not change any other watch attributes.
- b) The WWA-Composer GUI will close. The WWA-Monitor will now list this watch with a brown background, meaning that it is ready to be formatted for inclusion in a multi-segment WCN.

WWA **should** automatically then follow-up all remaining active convective watches. If the software doesn't auto follow-up the remaining watches (their backgrounds turn brown in the WWA-Monitor), repeat steps 1, 2, and 3(a)(b) on Job Sheet #4 for each convective watch in the WWA database. Once all watches have been successfully followed-up (they have brown backgrounds):

- c) Click on each watch in the WWA-Monitor GUI. If selected, they will have inversed background and color (black background, white lettering)
- d) Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Monitor. Do not change any other watch attributes.
- e) Look over the output in the WWA Transmit GUI. Areas you cannot edit include the UGC line, the VTEC line, and the time stamp in the mass media header. There will be multiple segments in the WCN product.
- f) Click on 'Transmit' then on 'Yes' to send the WCN.

5. Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Composer

- a) Look over the output in the WWA Transmit GUI. Areas you cannot edit include the UGC line, the VTEC line, and the time stamp in the mass media header. There will be just one segment in the WCN product.
- b) Click on 'Transmit' then on 'Yes' to send the WCN.

Watch-By-County Job Sheet #9

Follow-up a single convective watch to extend a watch in time

This job sheet will be used to extend a watch in time. To extend a watch in area, **go to Job Sheet #8**. To do a routine follow-up of watch(es) in effect, **go to Job Sheet #4**.

To extend the expiration time of a convective watch:

1. Click on the watch (WCN) listed in the WWA-Monitor.
2. Click on the 'Follow Up' button in the WWA-Monitor.
3. In the WWA-Composer, click on the appropriate box (hour or minute) in the "HazExpires" row the on the right arrow in that row to advance the hour or minute. The "ProdExp" boxes right below should also update to the time you are setting.

If this is the only watch in effect), **complete step 5 to finish the process**. Otherwise, **complete step 4 to finish the process**.

4. Prepare the other watches in effect for inclusion into your WCN:
 - a) Click the "Save Only" button on the WWA-Composer. Do not change any other watch attributes.
 - b) The WWA-Composer GUI will close. The WWA-Monitor will now list this watch with a brown background, meaning that it is ready to be formatted for inclusion in a multi-segment WCN.

WWA **should** automatically then follow-up all remaining active convective watches. If the software doesn't auto follow-up the remaining watches (their backgrounds turn brown in the WWA-Monitor), repeat steps 1, 2, and 3(a)(b) on Job Sheet #4 for each convective watch in the WWA database. Once all watches have been successfully followed-up (they have brown backgrounds):

- c) Click on each watch in the WWA-Monitor GUI. If selected, they will have inversed background and color (black background, white lettering)
 - d) Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Monitor. Do not change any other watch attributes.
 - e) Look over the output in the WWA Transmit GUI. Areas you cannot edit include the UGC line, the VTEC line, and the time stamp in the mass media header. There will be multiple segments in the WCN product.
 - f) Click on 'Transmit' then on 'Yes' to send the WCN.
5. Click the "Edit and Transmit" button on the WWA-Composer
 - a) Look over the output in the WWA Transmit GUI. Areas you cannot edit include the UGC line, the VTEC line, and the time stamp in the mass media header. There will be just one segment in the WCN product.
 - b) Click on 'Transmit' then on 'Yes' to send the WCN.